GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2742
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005
DECLINE IN PRICE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
Ananth Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the plight of farmers as a result of the crash the prices of Onion, Tomato, Maize and some other crops;

(b) if so, the response of the Government alongwith the details of the action plan to help the farmers;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any requests from the States seeking financial assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action of the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Month-end wholesale prices of onion, tomato and maize have shown an increasing trend in recent months.

(b)to(d): On the request of a State/UT Government, the Government of India implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme. During 2005-06, on the request of Government of Rajasthan, Government of India implemented MIS for procurement of 5000 MT of onion at Rs.250/- per quintal from 1.6.2005 to 31.7.2005. No proposal from any other State Government has been received for implementing MIS for onion during the current year.

Regarding Maize Government of India has appointed Food Corporation of India as the Central Nodal Agency for procurement of Maize. The MSP for Maize for the year 2005-06 is Rs.540/- per quintal.